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A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM BRADDOCK DISTRICT
SUPERVISOR JOHN C. COOK

the BRADDOCK BEACON

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BRADDOCK DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COLLEGES SET TO BEGIN MARCH 1

Phase two of my Community Engagement Initiative begins next month with two Neighborhood Colleges. Neighborhood College is ideal for those who want to make a difference but aren't sure where to start. Graduates use this program to help their neighbors, become involved in local issues, take on leadership roles in their communities and volunteer. Students learn about local government, meet elected officials and leaders, meet community-based organizations, see how to build partnerships and consensus and learn effective participation and leadership skills, including engaging diverse communities.

The first Braddock Neighborhood College begins Monday, March 1 and will run for five consecutive Monday nights at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church (4801 Ravensworth Road in Annandale). There will also be an all day workshop on Saturday, March 20 and graduation will be held on April 12. The second Neighborhood College will begin Wednesday, March 24 and will run for 6 consecutive Wednesday nights in Braddock Hall. The Saturday date will be April 10.

Braddock residents interested in participating in the Neighborhood Colleges should contact my office at 703-425-9300 for further information.

The first part of the Community Engagement Initiative was held on Saturday, January 23, when over sixty current and future community leaders in the Braddock District joined me for Fairfax County's first-of-its-kind, day-long Leadership Institute.

The Institute featured a keynote address by Ron Carlee, the former Arlington, Va., County Manager and

current Executive in Residence of the International City Manager's Association, focusing on Community Leadership. Other general sessions covered engaging diverse populations and how to conduct a neighborhood planning exercise. Breakout sessions covered legal and fiduciary responsibilities of community leadership, creating and maintaining safe neighborhoods, how to start an environmental stewardship program, and how to develop an emergency response plan.

The energy in the room throughout the day was palpable, and participants indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the program. In fact, of those who responded to the survey at the end of the day, 95 percent rated the Leadership Institute as very good or excellent.

The program was not designed to be an academic exercise, but a call to action. I have called on these leaders to return to their communities, recruit volunteers, establish goals through a collaborative, inclusive community planning process, and get to the work of making their communities better places to live.

These trained and energized volunteers from the Leadership Institute and Neighborhood Colleges will be the backbone of neighborhood and organizational level visioning and planning processes that will, I believe, launch a number of neighborhood-level community growth initiatives.



Supervisor John C. Cook

4TH CONSTITUENT DAY SCHEDULED

Thursday February 18, from 5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. at the Woods Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle in Burke Centre.

Constituent days provide a great forum to get out and meet Supervisor Cook and get your questions answered in a relaxed setting. During previous constituent days a wide range of issues have been discussed, including commercial signs along roads, George Mason University Construction, illegal boarding houses, the lack of transportation funds from Richmond, education, cell towers and many other topics.

Hope to see you there!

NOTARY PUBLIC NOW AVAILABLE IN THE BRADDOCK OFFICE

A certified Notary Public is now available to sign your documents free of charge. In order to have your items notarized, be sure to have photo identification.

SUPERVISOR COOK IN THE COMMUNITY

On January 23rd, Supervisor Cook held the Leadership Institute at the Woods Community Center in Burke. More about this event can be found in this issue of the Beacon.

On January 26th, the Supervisor addressed the Croftwood HOA meeting as well as the Ravensworth/Bristow Civic Association meeting. Supervisor Cook spoke to and answered questions on items that were pertinent to those communities.

On January 27th, Supervisor Cook held a town hall meeting at Kings Glen Elementary School. This event addressed concerns about the Danbury Forest Drive and the Wakefield Chapel Road intersections with Braddock Road.

On January 28th, Supervisor Cook was present at the Fire and Rescue Academy to welcome back our own Virginia Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team from Haiti. The 114 member crew had been in Haiti for two weeks assisting in the rescue effort after the devastating January 12th earthquake.

AMTRAK SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE AT BURKE CENTRE STATION

In January, Burke Centre was added to Amtrak's Northeast Regional System, allowing transit riders to travel to Charlottesville, Culpeper, Manassas, Alexandria and even all the way to Boston without transferring trains.

For information on train schedules or to purchase tickets, visit www.amtrak.com or call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

OSSIAN HALL PARK NOW CLOSED FOR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR RENOVATION

Ossian Hall Park, located at 7900 Heritage Drive in Annandale, officially closed for the start of its multi-million dollar renovation on February 1, 2010.

The parking lot that serves the park will be closed during these renovations as it becomes a staging area. **Most importantly, vehicles parked in the lot will be towed!**

During construction, the tennis courts at the park will be closed as will the playgrounds, basketball courts and selected trails. Next fall, the park will re-open with significant new amenities.

The renovations planned for Ossian Hall include a community plaza, two lighted basketball courts, an enlarged parking lot with an underground storm water management system, a multi-use athletic field, two new playgrounds, associated trails, site lighting and landscaping, as well as parking lot lighting.

Funding for this project is provided through the 2008 Park Bond. The contractor for this project is Jeffrey Stack, Inc., of Jersey, VA. Residents who are interested in seeing the Ossian Hall of the future are welcome to stop by the Braddock office to view the Plan.

UPCOMING COUNTY RECYCLING AND TRASH EVENTS

Feb. 28 - Electric Sunday TV and Computer Recycling Event, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax

March 27: Document Shredding, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria

LOOKING BACK AT FAIRFAX: REMEMBERING WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

Fairfax County's most famous citizen was born on February 22, 1732. For those using the old style calendar, move back 11 days. (To switch from the Julian to Gregorian calendar, 11 days were dropped in September 1752. That is, people went to bed on Wednesday, September 2, 1752, and when they woke up the next morning it was Thursday, September 14th).

George Washington certainly made the most of the days not taken from his life by calendar realignments. He kept the army together during eight miserable years of the American Revolution despite unspeakable hardships, supply shortages and personal danger. The government had virtually no money with which to fight the

war. Approximately 1/3 of the people were against the war, many so vehemently hostile as to have aided our enemy.

Political enemies schemed and plotted to discredit him. Washington could easily have walked away from it all and lived comfortably. But he didn't. After becoming President of the United States, he kept our country together in those extremely critical first eight years. He could have stayed in power as President as long as he wanted. But he didn't.

He voluntarily walked away from power in an era when it was completely unheard of to do so. Throughout his life, he demonstrated that he was motivated by what improved and strengthened America.

Perhaps the most apt characterization of Washington might have been from the eloquent words spoken at his eulogy by Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee: "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was second to none in the humble and endearing scenes of private life...Correct throughout, vice shuddered in his presence and virtue always felt his fostering hand." Fairfax County should be proud that its favorite son was the Father of our Country.

This feature is brought to you by: Paul N. Herbert, President of the Historical Society of Fairfax County and the author of "God Knows All Your Names."

SEEKING YOUR INPUT: SURVEY RESULTS ON THE COUNTY BUDGET

This Spring, the Board of Supervisors must make tough choices regarding next year's budget (the budget year starts July 1). The drop in home and commercial property values, sales tax revenue and car and home sale recordation fees has reduced county revenue.

In last month's *Braddock Beacon* we posed several questions on the County Budget to help Supervisor Cook assess available options. This month we provide the results of that survey by number of responses and percentage. Thanks to all of those who responded.

1. Which approach most closely resembles your overall view on the upcoming budget:

- a. The County should increase tax payments by \$1000 per household or more in order to increase spending on county programs and services: 17 (12%)
- b. The County should increase tax payments by several hundred dollars to hold spending at current levels and avoid cuts: 49 (34%)
- c. The County should cut spending by around \$100 million in order to keep tax payments equal to this year's: 46 (32%)
- d. County should cut spending significantly and reduce tax payments: 31 (22%)

2. What approaches should the County take regarding revenues (check as many as apply):

- a. The County should institute a restaurant meals tax to raise \$80 million: 60 (42%)
- b. The County should reinstitute a car registration fee of \$33 per vehicle per year: 68 (48%)
- c. The County should increase property tax payments: 43 (30%)
- d. The County should increase fees for use of county facilities and services: 56 (39%)
- e. The County should hold total revenue payments even and make necessary spending cuts: 48 (34%)
- f. The County should reduce the overall tax burden, even if that requires substantial reductions in spending: 35 (24%)

3. In setting spending priorities, which of these services would you LEAST like to see cuts made to:

- a. Public Safety, Fire and Police: 61 (43%)
- b. Education: 67 (47%)
- c. Human Services, services for those most in need: 30 (21%)

d. Parks and Envmt. Protection: 24 (17%)

4. Do you believe the Board of Supervisors has openly debated budget options to a sufficient degree?

- Yes: 23 (15%)
- No: 59 (41%)
- Expressed No Opinion: 61 (43%)

BUDGET TOWN HALLS IN THE BRADDOCK DISTRICT

Supervisor Cook will be hosting four town halls throughout the Braddock District so citizens have an opportunity to learn about and discuss with him the Fairfax County budget for fiscal year 2011.

Meetings will be held at:

- Tuesday, March 9 (during the Braddock District Council meeting) 7:30-9pm at Braddock Hall
- Monday, March 15 7:30-9pm at Robinson Secondary Cafeteria
- Saturday, March 20 10-11:30am at Ravensworth Elementary School Cafeteria
- Wednesday, March 24 7:30-9pm at Little Run Elementary School Cafeteria

Hope to see you there!

RECENTLY ADOPTED HOUSING STRATEGY MOVES AWAY FROM BUYING BUILDINGS, A SHIFT IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

At its January 26 meeting, the Board of Supervisors voted to adopt a new housing strategy that better addresses the needs of the County's lower-income and disabled residents. The blueprint's goals include ending homelessness in ten years, providing affordable housing options to those with special needs, and producing workforce housing sufficient to accommodate projected job growth.

The blueprint ends the prior policy of

using tax dollars to buy private buildings and convert them into government-owned housing. Instead, this blueprint focuses on the homeless, persons with disabilities and those making less than 30 percent of area median income. Central to addressing these priorities will be providing the most disadvantaged citizens with a housing "bridge" to stability, recovery and greater self-sufficiency. This will be achieved by competitively funding innovative non-

profit solutions.

Supervisor Cook has been calling for a change in housing strategy both on the dais and in op/ed pages since the board's retreat this past summer. He had this to say regarding the new blueprint: "This policy is a vast improvement over what the policy of this Board was a year ago. It is important we address the issues of those most in need and who are unable to be self-sufficient."

UPDATE ON HOT LANES CONSTRUCTION IN BRADDOCK

SOUNDWALL CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

At Supervisor Cook's request, the Megaprojects recently provided the following updates on specific segments:

Barrier 5C (Inner Loop, North Springfield) Portions north of Heming are now under construction, while portions south of Heming will go under construction in summer 2011.

Barrier 6B (Inner Loop, Americana Drive) This wall will experience work until summer, 2010. As one of the longest walls on the project, some "holes" will temporarily remain in this wall for utility relocation/access, or retaining wall construction.


Barrier 5B (Outer Loop, Ravensworth below the industrial park) Expected to be under construction in summer 2010.

Barrier 6C (Outer Loop, Port Royal Industrial Park to Wakefield Park/Little River Turnpike) The wall is

scheduled to start construction in late spring or early summer 2010 and will continue through winter 2010/early 2011. Again some holes in will remain in this wall for utility relocation/access, retaining wall construction or right-of-way concerns.

BELTWAY BRIDGES SET TO REOPEN AND SHIFT

Work on the first phase of the bridge replacements over both Braddock Road and Little River Turnpike at the Beltway is nearing completion. Weather permitting; all traffic will be shifted to the new Braddock Road Bridge in May, 2010 with demolition and reconstruction of the old bridge to follow. An identical shift to the new bridge over Little River Turnpike may come as early as April, 2010 with identical demolition and reconstruction of the bridge currently in use.



Fairfax County Commission for Women
The **Commission's charge** is to promote the full equality of **women and girls** in the County.

SAVE THE DATE:
Women's Voices Forum
Saturday, March 20
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Government Center

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TIP OF THE MONTH: MENTOR IN THE FAIRFAX PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Are you a caring, responsible adult who is interested in giving time to a student? Are you willing to encourage that child to develop his/her strengths and capabilities? Can you take the time to be a role model, a friend, a guide, a listener, motivator and advocate for that child? If you answered yes to these questions, then MentorWorks needs you!

MentorWorks, which was launched in 1999, serves as an umbrella for school-based mentoring programs in Fairfax County Public Schools. Its mission is to connect every student to a caring, responsible adult. It is a joint venture of the following partners: Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax County Council of PTAs and the Fairfax Partnership for Youth. Many schools in the County provide one-to-one or group mentoring services during the school day or after school.

Mentors encourage academic success by showing the benefits of staying in school and evaluating educational choices; they help students see and strive for broader

horizons; mentors provide dependable and consistent attention and support through listening, guiding and encouraging students to reach their full potential.

The program asks each mentor to commit to weekly visits with their mentee; approximately 1/2 hour each week for one school year. Mentors usually meet at the school during the school day. Mentors must complete a background screening, undertaken at the program's expense to be accepted into the program.

To learn more about MentorWorks visit the following site www.fcps.edu/cco/mentor or contact Shelley Prince, a Mentorworks Specialist with FCPS at 571-423-1223



BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL INFORMATION FORUM ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

The Braddock District Council meeting in February will be its annual Information Forum. The topic for this year's forum is "Do's and Don'ts, Ins and Outs of Community Associations".

In keeping with Supervisor Cook's Community Engagement Initiative, this meeting provides a one evening experience for those who are interested in finding out how their community associations function and how they can be a vehicle for solving problems. The evening begins at 6 PM with a light supper, and the Opening Session will begin at 6:30 PM at the Braddock Office.

Anyone interested in attending is welcome. You need not be a current board member of an association. If you even have a little bit of curiosity about how these organizations work, this will be a worthwhile evening. There is no cost to attend other than your time, which will be well spent. We hope we will see you there.

SUPERVISOR COOK RECOGNIZES BRADDOCK DISTRICT RESIDENTS

At Supervisor Cook's request the Board of Supervisors honored both the Lake Braddock Secondary School Girls Cross Country Team and Brianna Hussein at its January 26 meeting. The Cross Country team won the 2009 Virginia AAA State Championship. It is the team's third state title of the decade and ninth state title overall. Brianna, 7 years old, responded to her mother's urgent medical need by calling 911, explaining the situation and providing accurate information to emergency responders that helped save her mother's life.



BRADDOCK STUDENTS SHINE ACADEMICALLY AND ATHLETICALLY

As we continue the arduous task of working on the budgets for both the Board of Supervisors and School Board, I thought I would focus this column on nothing budget related! There have been and will be enough conversations on that subject.

Instead, I want to focus on some very exciting and positive accomplishments that are happening in our schools - both in and out of the class room. These accomplishments highlight FCPS' dedicated employees and our outstanding students in the Braddock District.

Frost Middle School and Cherry Run Elementary School earned the 2010 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence, the highest honor possible under the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) incentive program. The VIP program was created by the Board of Education in 2007 to promote advanced learning and achievement. The criteria for the award go beyond test scores and measures student outcomes and best practices in areas supporting student learning.

Seven Braddock District schools earned the 2010 Virginia State Board of Education Award for Educational Excellence, the VIP's second-tier honor. **Bonnie Brae Elementary, Fairfax Villa Elementary, Lake Braddock Secondary, Laurel**

Ridge Elementary, Oak View Elementary, Wakefield Forest Elementary and Woodson High School met all state and federal accountability benchmarks for a minimum of two consecutive years. At the same time, these schools made significant progress toward goals for increased student achievement and expanded educational opportunities established by the Governor and the Board of Education.

Following closely were the recipients of the Board of Education Competence to Excellence Award. **Canterbury Woods Elementary, Fairview Elementary, Kings Glen and Kings Park Elementary schools, and Olde Creek Elementary** also met all state and federal benchmarks for a minimum of two consecutive years, and made progress toward the VIP objectives.

The **Lake Braddock Secondary School Girls Cross Country Team** continued their dominance and won the 2009 Virginia AAA State Championship. This is the team's third state title of the decade and ninth state title overall which



set the state record for most championships.

Not surprisingly, the team's Coach Mike Mangan was selected as The Washington Post's Fairfax All-county Coach of the Year.

The Bruins Varsity Football team was equally strong on the gridiron. They won the 2009 Northern Regional Championship with a record of 11-2 and advanced to the

state playoffs for the first time in the school's history.

Finally the **Canterbury Woods Elementary School Orchestra** has been invited to present a string performance at the Kennedy Center on February 23, 2010. There are many more examples of outstanding achievement in our schools. These are just a few which, I hope, will help you realize the excellence of our school system and the caliber of our students.

Tessie Wilson is the Braddock Representative and Vice Chairman of the Fairfax County School Board

RECYCLING YOUR ALUMINUM CANS AT LORD OF LIFE HELPS SUPPORT CHARITABLE CAUSES IN BRADDOCK

Since 1990, the Lord of Life Lutheran Church has collected over 70,000 pounds of aluminum cans and scrap aluminum to support a variety of worthy causes throughout Braddock District.

This completely self-supporting program has generated over \$23,000 in "aluminum dollars," and has broad support from church members, a number of corporate supporters who batch their employee soft drink cans for pickup, the Braddock District office and that of the Chairman. Even the trailer out behind the church, which transports cans to local redemption centers, was purchased with funds generated by the program.

Current collection efforts support the Church's Adopt-A-Highway Program and have, over the years, sustained charitable efforts that have benefitted the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's "Aluminum Cans for Burned Children" program; NOVACO (Northern Virginia Coalition, which provides housing, education and child care support for victims of domestic abuse); Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief; Habitat for Humanity projects; and Lutheran Social Services' HIV/AIDS Camp for Kids.

Contributions to charitable organizations are enhanced by leveraging these dollars with the "Community Cares" program of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

The recycling center is behind the church, which is located at 5116 Twinbrook Road and your cans will be gratefully received to support this worthy program. Questions regarding establishing a similar aluminum recycling program can be directed to Tom Frenzing, "The Can Man," at (703) 323-5831.

Tell us if you know of other programs that should be highlighted in the Braddock Beacon!

GREENING FAIRFAX COUNTY SERIES: RESTORING LAND, RESTORING WATER

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 27 1:00 PM- 3:00 PM

In an ongoing effort to encourage residents and homeowner associations in Braddock District to actively engage in improving our neighborhoods, there will be an abbreviated version of the Greening Fairfax County Series: Restoring Land, Restoring Water. Seating is limited and registration is required.

The event will be held in Braddock Hall,

9002 Burke Lake Road on March 27.

If you live along the I-495 Corridor and have been impacted by the HOT Lanes Project, this seminar will be of particular benefit. If you have stormwater problems or

if you are looking to beautify the common areas or the entrance to your community in an environmentally friendly way, there will be speakers who will provide you with ideas and case studies of other successful green communities.

More information will be forthcoming



in the March Beacon, but you can read about the conference and get other helpful information by going to the group's website at www.fcrpp3.org

BRADDOCK NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS: FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES

This month on Braddock Neighborhood News, Supervisor Cook interviews John Dargle, the Director of the Fairfax County Park Authority, and Tawny Hammond, the Director of Frying Pan Park and a well known community volunteer. They discuss the outstanding parks and recreational services we enjoy in Fairfax County and the benefits they provide to our standard of living.

Additionally, this month's guests addressed how the assistance of volunteers from our community can help our parks through difficult budget times, provide valuable recreational and educational services and continue to maintain some of our most beautiful undeveloped land in trust for

future generations.

Last month, Supervisor Cook interviewed Ingrid Parris-Hicklin from the Office of Public Private Partnerships and Joe Christiansen from Fairfax FISH about Fairfax Cares. They discussed how Fairfax County and a coalition of non-profit organizations are working together to help our neighbors who are most in need in these difficult times.

Braddock Neighborhood News airs on Fridays and Sundays at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. on Channel 16. You can also watch a streaming video of the show by visiting http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/channel16/asx/supervisor_cook.asx.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE NVCC/BRADDOCK FORUM

The second meeting of the NVCC-Braddock Forum will take place Wednesday, February 17, 7:30 PM at the Nancy Sprague Center. The first meeting in November drew such a good response that Supervisor Cook would like to meet on a regular quarterly basis with the residents who live in the Wakefield Chapel Road corridor and around NVCC to discuss issues that are unique to that area of the Braddock District. Delegate Vivian Watts is planning on attending once again. Please pass this information along to your communities, and if there are any issues which you would like to see on the agenda, please call Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300. We hope we'll see you there.

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

Free Tax Preparation Service

On Saturday, February 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Deloitte Tax LLP will sponsor its third Community Tax Assistance Day at Bryant Alternative High School. Deloitte offers free assistance from IRS certified volunteers to those households whose 2009 Federal tax returns report a total income of \$49,000 or less. Last year, families throughout Northern Virginia received over \$4.4 million in federal refunds through this free service.

Those looking for more information should visit www.volunteerfairfax.org, [nvacash.org](http://www.nvacash.org), or contact Emily Swenson at eswenson@volunteerfairfax.org or 703-246-3474

Tax Relief for Senior Citizens and the Disabled

Fairfax County provides tax relief to citizens who are either 65 or older or permanently and totally disabled, and meet the income and

asset eligibility requirements. For detailed eligibility requirements access the following website: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxrelief_faq.htm

Returning applicants must file between January 1 and April 1. For an application, call 703-222-8234 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, e-mail taxrelief@fairfaxcounty.gov or download the tax relief application from this website: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/forms.htm#Other_Forms.

To assist Braddock District residents in this process, Supervisor Cook has arranged for representatives from the Department of Tax Administration to be present at the Braddock office between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on March 9 and 16. To make a private appointment to meet with a representative, contact Lindsey Smith from my staff.

KEEP THOSE SIDEWALKS CLEAR

With several snow storms this year, school children have a tough and sometimes dangerous time getting to their bus stops.

As neither the state nor the county clears snow and ice from public walkways, Braddock District residents are encouraged to make a sincere effort to clear the sidewalks in front of their homes after a snow event. If you know that you have an elderly or physically challenged neighbor who may be unable to undertake this effort, we hope you will consider clearing a path at their home in addition to your own.

Homeowner associations may require members of their communities to clear walkways abutting their property. Please contact your association or property manager for further information.

GMU BEGINS LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Representatives from several Fairfax County and Fairfax City agencies were recently invited to participate in George Mason University's Transportation and Traffic Management Planning Process for the Fairfax Campus. The goal of this study is to create the comprehensive framework needed to address traffic congestion and pedestrian/vehicular safety issues on and

surrounding the Fairfax Campus.

Mason is looking to develop a range of solutions related to its transportation systems, traffic management, flow of pedestrians, bicycles, service and utility vehicles and the inter-campus shuttle system. The study will look at daily conditions as well as event-related impacts. It is anticipated that the recommendations

will be finalized by late May, 2010.

The Braddock office is participating in this working group, which has examined Fairfax County's long range plan for the intersection of Braddock Road and Rt. 123 in addition to short-term improvements which have already been funded by the county on both these roads.

FUTURE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSED FOR BRADDOCK ROAD/WAKEFIELD DRIVE/DANBURY FORREST

Residents from communities in the vicinity of Wakefield Chapel Road, Braddock Road and Danbury Forest Drive met at Kings Glen Elementary School last week to discuss ideas on improving safety and traffic flow at this congested intersection.

The left turn lane to Wakefield Chapel Drive is too short and backs up eastbound Braddock Road in the morning. There are also a large number of accidents in this area. So, Supervisor Cook asked the county to set aside funding to examine the feasibility of improving the intersections.

In a two hour community information meeting, residents offered their

observations and suggestions to County



Transportation Planner Beth Ianetta, who is beginning a detailed analysis of speed, traffic volume and accident history at this location.

Larry Ichter, Chief of the Capital Facilities

Branch of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services offered a history of residential development in the area and the traffic impacts caused by the incremental widening of Braddock Road from two lanes to its current six lanes in this vicinity. He also made participants aware of the regulatory steps involved in any significant realignment of this road.

Anyone who was not present for the meeting and has suggestions or concerns can e-mail Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov or contact the office.